

Central Intelligence Agency

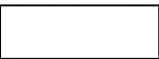


Washington, D.C. 20505

20 November 2001



Reference: F-2001-02236

Dear Mr. 

This acknowledges receipt of your 14 September 2001 letter requesting records under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA). Specifically, your request is for the following:

**"Any intelligence information obtained prior to the attacks on September 11, 2001 indicating preparations for a terrorist operation and/or operations in the United States as well as information obtained after the attack that would have indicated a pending operation."**

For identification purposes we have assigned your request the number referenced above. Please refer to this number in future correspondence.

The CIA can neither confirm nor deny the existence or nonexistence of records responsive to your request. Such information--unless it has been officially acknowledged--would be classified for reasons of national security under Executive Order 12958. The fact of the existence or nonexistence of such records would also relate directly to information concerning intelligence sources and methods. The Director of Central Intelligence has the responsibility and authority to protect such information from unauthorized disclosure in accordance with Section 103 (c)(6) of the National Security Act of 1947 and Section 6 of the CIA Act of 1949. Therefore, your request is denied under FOIA exemptions (b)(1) and (b)(3); an explanation of these exemptions is enclosed.

The CIA official responsible for this determination is Kathryn I. Dyer, Information and Privacy Coordinator. By this action we are neither confirming nor denying the existence or nonexistence of such records. You may appeal this decision by addressing your appeal to the Agency Release Panel, in my care, within 45 days from the date of this letter. Should you choose to do this, please explain the basis of your appeal.

Sincerely,



Kathryn I. Dyer  
Information and Privacy Coordinator

Enclosure